

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 19 and 26-50 and amend claims 1, 9, 13, 21, and 22 as set forth in the listing of claims that follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An alert system onboard a vehicle comprising:
a condition information receiver receiving condition data comprising a set of coordinates and generating a condition information signal in response to said condition data, said condition information signal corresponding to an alert area;
a position system receiver receiving position data and generating a position signal in response to said position data;
an indicator;
a system controller electrically coupled to said condition information receiver, said positioning system receiver, and said indicator, wherein said system controller receives said condition information signal and said position signal and determines if said position data is within said alert area or, if said position data is not within said alert area, whether said vehicle is approaching said alert area within a predetermined distance, said system controller providing a condition alert signal to said indicator when said position data is within said alert area or when said vehicle is approaching said alert area within said predetermined distance ~~for conversion into a condition alert signal wherein said converted condition alert signal is received by said~~ indicator; and
an overriding provision for the indicator ~~that is operable by said system controller in~~ response to receiving said condition alert signal.
2. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said indicator is selected from the following group comprising: a video system, an audio system, a lighting system, and a heads-up display system.
3. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising:
a video system electrically coupled to said system controller; and
an audio system electrically coupled to said system controller;
wherein said system controller indicates said condition alert signal on said video system and said audio system.

4. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said condition is the weather.
5. (Original) A system as in claim 3 wherein said video display system is selected from the following group: a radar display, a data capable phone, a personal digital assistant, a navigation system, a telematic system, and a video entertainment system.
6. (Original) A system as in claim 3 wherein said audio system receives data selected from the following group: recorded voice, warning tones, and text-to-speech.
7. (Original) A system as in claim 3 wherein said system controller receives said position signal and signals said video display system.
8. (Original) A system as in claim 7 wherein said system controller combines said condition information signal with said position signal to form an overlay condition position signal.
9. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim 7 wherein said position data system controller also indicates a heading direction of the vehicle condition information receiver.
10. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said condition information receiver is selected from the following group: AM/FM receiver, wireless communication system, telematic system, satellite receiver, and navigation system.
11. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said audio system is selected from the following group: a vehicle stereo system, an entertainment system, and a sound-conveying device.

12. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said condition information receiver receives condition data from one selected from the following group: radar system, wireless data system, personal communication service, cellular data network, short message services, paging network, FM subcarrier system, satellite network, broadband data services, and local area networks.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an alert system onboard a vehicle for alerting of a hazardous condition comprising:

receiving ~~warning~~ condition data comprising a set of coordinates corresponding to an alert area ~~the hazardous condition~~;

receiving position data;

~~providing~~ converting the warning data and the position data into a condition alert signal when said position data is within said alert area or when said vehicle is approaching said alert area within a predetermined distance;

overriding a vehicle indicator for indicating a current hazardous condition in response to said condition alert signal ~~a system controller receiving said condition alert signal by changing a power provision of the vehicle indicator.~~

14. (Original) A method as in claim 13 wherein warning data comprises receiving data containing information on the hazardous condition selected from the following group: weather data, tornado data, hazardous chemical spill data, and accident data.

15. (Original) A method as in claim 13 wherein said indicating a current hazardous condition further comprises:

displaying a condition map on a video display;

overlaying a condition alert system position on said video display: and

indicating a condition alert system heading.

16. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 13 wherein changing a power provision of the vehicle indicator further comprises:

- powering on the indicator; and
- generating an audio or video signal on the indicator.

17. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 16 wherein said generating an audio or video signal comprises audibly transmitting a signal formed from one selected from the following group: a prerecorded voice, a live voice, a text to speech device, and a video image.

18. (Original) A method as in claim 13 further comprising dynamically updating condition data based on a condition alert system position.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) A method as in claim 13 further comprising displaying an overlay of a condition alert system position on a generated condition map on a video display.

21. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 13 further comprising displaying a heading direction of the vehicle ~~a condition alert system~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A vehicle alert system onboard a vehicle comprising:
a condition information receiver receiving condition data comprising a set of coordinates
and generating a condition information ~~alert~~ signal in response to said condition data, said
condition alert signal corresponding to an alert area;

a positioning system receiver receiving position data and generating a position signal that
includes a vehicle heading;

a video system;

an audio system;

a system controller electrically coupled to said condition information receiver, said positioning system receiver, said video system, and said audio system, said system controller determining if said position data is within said alert area of, if said position data is not within

said alert area, if said vehicle is approaching said alert area and within is within a predetermined distance, said system controller providing a condition alert signal in response to said determination that said position data is within said alert area of said vehicle is approaching said alert area within said predetermined distance; ~~condition information alert signal and said position signal forming an overlay condition position signal;~~

wherein said system controller provides said condition alert system to indicating said
~~overlay condition position signal on said video system and said audio system.~~

23. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 1 wherein said overriding provision includes a power provision for powering on said indicator.

24. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 1 wherein said overriding provision includes a power provision for turning off power of an existing vehicle entertainment system, said existing vehicle entertainment system is selected from the following group comprising: a CD player, a tape player, and a non-broadcast device.

25. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 13 wherein changing a power provision of the vehicle indicator further comprises:

powering off an existing vehicle entertainment system, said existing vehicle entertainment system is selected from the following group comprising: a CD player, a tape player, and a non-broadcast device.

26 – 50 (Cancelled)